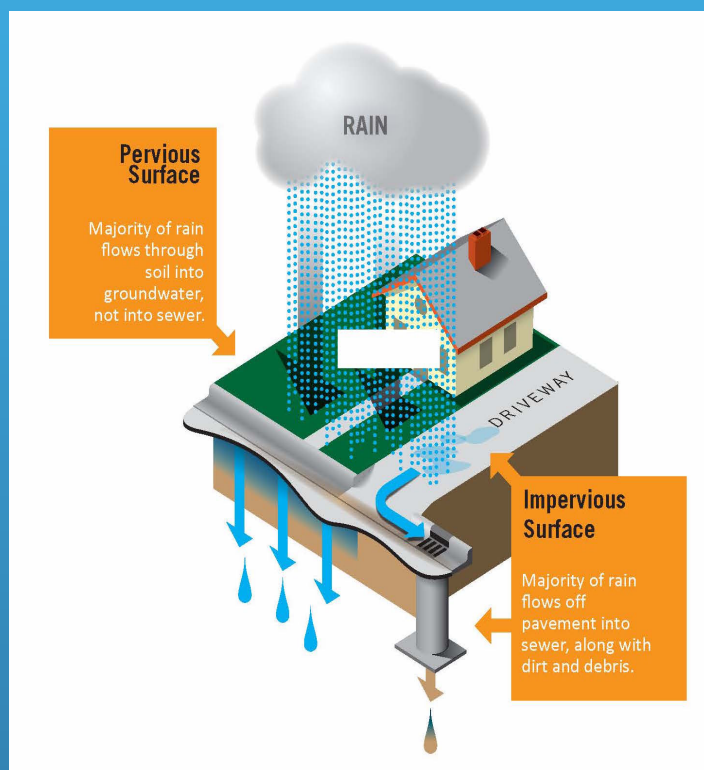




Fair Share Drainage Charge

In compliance with federal regulations, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) incurs more than \$125 million to store, transport and treat billions of gallons of storm water run-off and snowmelt that flows from rooftops, parking lots and hard, impervious surfaces into the city's combined sewer system (see picture).

Since 1975, most DWSD customers have been paying for drainage. Together with the City Assessor's Office, DWSD is updating its billing system information, working to ensure all parcels that drain to the city's sewer system are billed for their fair share of drainage costs.



More than 20,000 parcels that contribute to the city's drainage but have not been billed for drainage will be added to the billing system starting October 2016. Over 36 months, all parcels will be billed a uniform rate on an impervious acreage basis.

To help customers reduce their drainage charge and promote storm water management practices, DWSD will launch a Green Infrastructure Credit program in October 2016. Customers who reduce the peak flow and volume of storm water runoff on their property -- by disconnecting downspouts or planting rain gardens, for example -- can earn credits that can be applied to their bill.

Customers can learn more about their drainage charges, view and verify their parcel(s) and update their account information by visiting the drainage website: www.detroitmi.gov/drainage, emailing drainage@detroitmi.gov, or calling (313) 267-8000 and following the prompts to speak with a drainage customer care specialist.

Equitable and accurate billing together with a citywide embrace of Green Infrastructure practices will help prevent untreated overflows, preserve water quality and help Detroit become one of the "greenest" cities in America.